

Message Text

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PAGE 01 IBADAN 00548 221631Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05 DODE-00
/026 W

-----079161 221732Z /46

R 111025Z MAY 78
FM AMCONSUL IBADAN
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2866
AMCONSUL KADUNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L IBADAN 0548

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV PINR MPOL NI
SUBJECT: THE JEMIBEWON PHENOMENON

REF: LAGOS 5788

POST HAS SEVERAL COMMENTS TO MAKE ON EMBASSY'S VERY FINE
REPORT ON JEMIBEWON'S RECENT ACTIVITIES AND POPULARITY.

1. JEMIBEWON IS A TOUGH, ROUGH PERSONALITY AND IS NOT
HIGHLY REGARDED OR LIKED BY MOST OF IBADAN'S SOPHISTIC-
ATED SOCIETY. HIS LACK OF EDUCATION AND POISE DO NOT ENDEAR
HIM TO THOSE HERE WHO POSSESS BOTH. 2ND DIV GOC ADAMU HAS
AS LITTLE TO DO WITH HIM AS POSSIBLE. OTHERS HAVE COMMENTED
THAT BRIG. AND MRS. JEMIBEWON HAVE ACHIEVED THEIR HIGH
STATUS THRU MEANS OTHER THAN HOW THEY HAVE, I.E. EDUCATION,
INTELLIGENCE, AND SOPHISTICATION. MRS. JEMIBEWON, CONTRARY
TO MY REPORT IN 77 IBADAN 893, IS ARROGANT AND SELF-WILLED,
EXTREMELY CONSCIOUS OF HER POSITION AND READY TO DEFEND
IT. LAST YEAR SHE CAUSED SEVERAL NURSES AT A GOVT HOSPITAL
TO BE FIRED FOR NOT ADMITTING HER TO SEE A PATIENT.

2. JEMIBEWON'S CHARACTER IS NOT ALL A LIABILITY. HE IS
ADMIRE BY MANY WHO BELIEVE HIS GRUFF AND DIRECT WAYS "GET
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THINGS DONE". ALSO, ALTHOUGH I HAVE NOT HEARED THIS FROM
ANYONE ELSE, IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT DISCONTENTED NON-COMS
AND BATTLEFIELD APPOINTED OFFICERS WOULD BE ATTRACTED MORE
TO JEMIBEWON THAN TO SANDHURST OR OTHER HIGHLY EDUCATED
OFFICERS.

3. BOTH DEF ATTACHE HAYWOOD AND I REMARKED ON HOW WELL

JEMIBEWON HANDLED HIMSELF BEFORE THE VISITING U.S. WAR COLLEGE GROUP THIS YEAR IN CONTRAST TO HIS RATHER INEPT PERFORMANCE THE PREVIOUS YEAR. HE MADE A SHORT - TO THE POINT - PRESENTATION AND ANSWERED QUESTIONS FRANKLY AND FULLY, HE IS IMPROVING HIS POISE AND WIDENING HIS KNOWLEDGE AS HE CONTINUES TO HANDLE THE CHALLENGES OF HIS OFFICE.
HOYT

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